

Midwest . . . News Notes

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA

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September 12, 1967

The Provincial Steward's office reports that a review of the recently submitted budgets of separately incorporated schools shows a budgeted decrease in net income anticipated during the fiscal year 1967-68 as compared to actual income during 1966-67 in a majority of cases.

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A communique from the Conference of Major Superiors of Communities of Men recently informed us of the establishment of Bearings for Re-Establishment, Inc., 220 East 67th St., New York, N.Y. 10021. The purpose of this organization is to help those who have left religious communities. "You are aware of the fact that a number of priests, sisters and brothers are leaving their assignments within the Church," says the communique. "Such persons need our understanding, Christian kindness and fraternal assistance."

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Three Brothers have recently been reassigned as follows: Brother Michael Harmon to Father Gibault School for Boys; Brother John Lahiff to Cathedral High School; and Brother Eligius Ruscik to live at Columba Hall and work in the Provincial General Office and in the Junior College Office.

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An excellent opportunity for renewal is being offered to the Brothers in the South Bend area. Holy Cross Junior College is offering evening classes in Biblical Theology: Old Testament the first semester and New Testament the second semester. Brother James Moroney is the instructor. In an appeal for Brothers to enroll in these courses the Provincial stated that "Both course offerings are meant to intensify appreciation of Scripture, particularly in the light of Vatican II, and to foster personal growth. I urge all our members to consider this opportunity seriously, for the course is designed especially with province members conveniently nearby in mind."

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Other evening classes announced by Brother John Driscoll are as follows: Principles of Accounting taught by Brother James Leik; Seminar in Fiction taught by Brother Robert Ducharme; and Music Appreciation taught by Brother Daniel Kane. All evening classes are open to men and women.

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"In general, Boysville does not meet any need which cannot be better met by the boy living in his own home or a foster home in his own community and attending a local school." This quotation is from the Boysville Study by the Michigan Catholic Conference, a study made during November-December 1966. Within the next two months the Father Gibault School for Boys will participate in a study similar to the Boysville one: Both studies have long range goals in view and will carry on over a period of time. In view of the fact that several chapter decrees and recommendations call for "study" and "research" and etc., it is interesting to observe that some activity has already happened in these areas.

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The Boysville Study has opened a dialogue between the school and the Bishops and the Knights and the Provincial Office on a new and intense basis. On August 31, 1967, Brothers Robert Hormann and Edward Overstreet met with the Provincial and Council members to review some of the problems highlighted by the study.

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The Provincial has completed his circular letter and is now awaiting the approval of chapter decrees and recommendations before releasing the letter. The basic purpose of the letter is the promulgation of chapter decrees and recommendations. Information from Rome is that the Superior General, after his return to Rome during early September, will give his attention to the work of the various chapters. Hence the process of approval and implementation is going on simultaneously.

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Rev. John Guiney of the S.M.A. Fathers has requested and was granted permission through the Provincial Office to give vocation talks in the schools. However, he was instructed to work out details with the principals inasmuch as such requests are numerous in some schools.

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Constitution 5, "Auxiliary Services of Coadjutor Brothers," was studied carefully last summer at the chapter, and for that matter months previous to the chapter. Forty-five of the forty-seven chapter members voted to accept the following response to the questions of the Superior General on this topic:

- Question #3 -- In the light of the documents issued by the Church (PC 15 and NPC 27) and of changes within the Congregation in recent years,
- a) what concept should we have of the coadjutor Brother and of his role in our Congregation?
 - b) in what way, precisely, ought the general chapter to grant active and passive voice to the coadjutor Brothers?

Response: a) Our concept of the coadjutor Brother ought to be that he has a genuine vocation in the Society of Priests. This means that he is a religious who assists priests and in the works of the Society of Priests. Hence, there would be no limitation on the kind

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or type of work or profession as long as it assists priests or works established by priests.

b) The general chapter ought to grant active and passive voice to the coadjutor Brothers in so far as this is in line with their work with priests. This means a coadjutor Brother would have active and passive voice on the local level and active voice on the provincial level.

Question #4 -- What is the best way to express the union between the two Societies of our Congregation?

The union between the two Societies of our Congregation might be best expressed in the idea that the Societies are "united by a common general government, by the same spirit and traditions, by a life of fervent prayer which binds us together in the Lord, by the same Constitutions, and by a constant exchange of mutual services; we should, as clerical religious and lay religious, unite our efforts in order to embody and put at the service of the Church this cooperation and mutual sharing of the ministerial priesthood of the ordained and the baptismal priesthood of the consecrated laity." (CL #5 Sec. II p. 96) This concept is in keeping with the Constitution on the Church in emphasizing the priesthood of the laity.

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Brother Benjamin McNulty is a patient in St. Anne's Hospital, Chicago. Dr. Pecora made a diagnosis of mio-cardi infarction and stated that he will inform us later as to the time Brother can be transferred to Dujarie House.

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Holy Cross Junior College enrollment for the school year 1967-68 has reached a total of 101. Class and Geographical distribution are on the next page.

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Brother Donatus Schmitz announces that the pre-novitiate program of one semester inaugurated at Basil Hall in the fall of 1966 has been extended to two semesters. In the future, high school graduate aspirants will attend Holy Cross Junior College for at least two semesters before they are time-eligible to make their petition for admission to the novitiate. This decision was arrived at after a careful study of the matter was made by the Commission on Formation. At a meeting of the Commission at the Provincial Office on Sept. 12, it was recommended to the Provincial that a move to extend the pre-novitiate program to two semesters would be in line with proposals made in Circular Letter #5 of the Superior General. Members of the Commission are: Brothers Pedro Haering, James Moroney, John Benesh, Charles Krupp, Bernard Donahoe, John Driscoll, and Lawrence Miller, Chairman.

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CLASS DISTRIBUTION

	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>
Part-time	46	30
Full-time		
Freshmen	26	58
Sophomores	--	13

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>
California	8	3
Colorado	1	1
Connecticut	2	3
Florida	4	0
Illinois	11	14
Indiana	11	40
Iowa	4	2
Kentucky	2	1
Maryland	0	1
Michigan	2	3
Missouri	1	1
New York	2	3
Ohio	15	25
Texas	3	0
Wisconsin	4	4
Brazil	1	0
Ghana	1	0
TOTAL	72	101

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Brother Romanus Ringwelski is in fair condition at St. Mary Nazareth Hospital, Chicago, where he was taken following an apparent heart attack.

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Prayers are requested for the recently deceased Mrs. Mary Bonen of Marshall, Missouri. Mrs. Bonen is the mother of Brother Marcellus Bonen.